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Office of Research and Reports  
Geographic Research Area

## GEOGRAPHY DIVISION

### MISSION

The Geography Division is responsible for the production of geographic intelligence in support of the CIA and other components of the intelligence community, as required.

### FUNCTIONS

The Geography Division shall:

1. Formulate, recommend, and carry out regional and systematic research on the geographic characteristics of areas of intelligence concern.
2. Fulfill intelligence requirements of the CIA and/or other departments and agencies of the government for special geographic studies in the fields of evasion and escape, unconventional warfare, targeting, territorial problems, and map appraisal.
3. Provide continuing intelligence on developments in Sino-Soviet Bloc geodesy, gravimetry, and cartography related to the scope, programs, and capabilities of Sino-Soviet Bloc mapping.
4. Report and advise on trends and events of geographic intelligence significance.
5. Chair meetings of the NIS Chapter IX Subcommittee, and coordinate and review contributions by the intelligence community to Chapter IX, Section 19 of Chapter I, and the Annals of the National Intelligence Survey.

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Office of Research and Reports  
Geographic Research Area  
Geography Division  
Page 2

6. Produce the Geographic Intelligence Review.

7. Review the adequacy of geographic intelligence coverage in the intelligence community and recommend steps to fill gaps as noted.  
(REVISED: 26 November 1958)

8. Represent the CIA in working and policy level coordination related to geographic intelligence activities, and participate in inter-departmental committees responsible for advising on foreign scientific developments of significance to the United States.

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Geographic Research Area  
Geography Division

**USSR BRANCH**

**MISSION**

The USSR Branch is responsible for the production of geographic intelligence on the USSR for the CIA and other components of the intelligence community.

**FUNCTIONS**

For its area of responsibility, the USSR Branch shall:

1. Recommend and carry out research on the regional and systematic geographic characteristics of the USSR.
2. Produce special studies as required in such fields as evasion and escape, unconventional warfare, targeting, and territorial problems.
3. Report and advise on trends and events of geographic intelligence significance.
4. Produce the CIA contribution to Map and Chart Appraisal elements of the National Intelligence Survey.
5. Contribute to the Geographic Intelligence Review.
6. Provide for the coordination of Soviet Arctic intelligence activities within the DD/I area.
7. Review the adequacy of geographic intelligence coverage and recommend steps to fill gaps as noted.

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Geographic Research Area  
Geography Division

## **EUROPE BRANCH**

### **MISSION**

The Europe Branch is responsible for the production of geographic intelligence on Europe for the CIA and other components of the intelligence community.

### **FUNCTIONS**

For its area of responsibility, the Europe Branch shall:

1. Recommend and carry out research on the regional and systematic geographic characteristics of Europe.
2. Produce special studies as required in such fields as evasion and escape, unconventional warfare, targeting, and territorial problems.
3. Report and advise on trends and events of geographic intelligence significance.
4. Produce the CIA contribution to Map and Chart Appraisal elements of the National Intelligence Survey.
5. Contribute to the Geographic Intelligence Review.
6. Review the adequacy of geographic intelligence coverage and recommend steps to fill gaps as noted.

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Office of Research and Reports  
Geographic Research Area  
Geography Division

**NEAR EAST/AFRICA BRANCH**

**MISSION**

The Near East/Africa Branch is responsible for the production of geographic intelligence on the Near East and Africa for the CIA and other components of the intelligence community.

**FUNCTIONS**

For its areas of responsibility, the Near East/Africa Branch shall:

1. Recommend and carry out research on the regional and systematic geographic characteristics of the Near East and Africa.
2. Produce special studies as required in such fields as evasion and escape, unconventional warfare, targeting, and territorial problems.
3. Report and advise on trends and events of geographic intelligence significance.
4. Produce the CIA contribution to Map and Chart Appraisal elements of the National Intelligence Survey.
5. Contribute to the Geographic Intelligence Review.
6. Review the adequacy of geographic intelligence coverage and recommend steps to fill gaps as noted.

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Geographic Research Area  
Geography Division

## **FAR EAST/PACIFIC BRANCH**

### **MISSION**

The Far East/Pacific Branch is responsible for the production of geographic intelligence on the Far East and Pacific areas for the CIA and other components of the intelligence community.

### **FUNCTIONS**

For its areas of responsibility, the Far East/Pacific Branch shall:

1. Recommend and carry out research on the regional and systematic geographic characteristics of the Far East and Pacific.
2. Produce special studies as required in such fields as evasion and escape, unconventional warfare, targeting, and territorial problems.
3. Report and advise on trends and events of geographic intelligence significance.
4. Produce the CIA contribution to Map and Chart Appraisal elements of the National Intelligence Survey.
5. Contribute to the Geographic Intelligence Review.
6. Review the adequacy of geographic intelligence coverage and recommend steps to fill gaps as noted.

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Geographic Research Area  
Geography Division

**SPECIAL RESEARCH BRANCH**

**MISSION**

The Special Research Branch is responsible for the production of intelligence on Soviet mapping and geodesy, geographic survey and mapping operations in Polar areas, and geographic intelligence on the Western Hemisphere for the CIA and other components of the intelligence community.

**FUNCTIONS**

The Special Research Branch shall:

1. Recommend and carry out research on Soviet mapping activities, capabilities, and plans, and interpret the implications of Soviet achievements in this field.
  2. Recommend and carry out research on the significance of geographic survey and mapping operations in Polar areas.
  3. Produce geographic intelligence on the Western Hemisphere as required.
  4. Produce the CIA contribution to Map and Chart Appraisal elements of the National Intelligence Survey for the Antarctic and the Western Hemisphere.
  5. Contribute to the Geographic Intelligence Review.
- (REVISED: 26 November 1958)
6. Represent the CIA on inter-departmental committees concerned with USSR mapping, international Polar operations, and foreign scientific developments of significance to the United States.  
and recommend steps to fill gaps as noted.

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Geographic Research Area  
Geography Division

## COORDINATION STAFF

### MISSION

The Coordination Staff is responsible for the coordination and manuscript review of Map and Chart Appraisal elements of the National Intelligence Survey.

### FUNCTIONS

The Coordination Staff shall:

1. Review, edit, coordinate, and integrate contributions of responsible agencies to Chapter IX, Section 19 of Chapter I, and other Map and Chart Appraisal elements of the National Intelligence Survey.
2. Provide policy guidance to participating agencies.
3. Advise the Chairman of the Chapter IX Subcommittee on production schedules and policies.
4. Provide liaison between the Chapter IX Subcommittee and the NIS Committee and Office of Basic Intelligence.

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Geographic Research Area  
Geography Division

## **PUBLICATIONS STAFF**

### **MISSION**

The Publications Staff is responsible for editing and publishing geographic intelligence reports, and counseling analysts of the Geographic Research Area in the written presentation of ideas.

### **FUNCTIONS**

The Publications Staff shall:

1. Substantively and mechanically edit Division geographic intelligence reports.
2. Arrange for publication of Division reports.
3. Counsel analysts in writing standards and techniques.
4. Develop and recommend Division policy on manuscript preparation, editing, and publication.

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